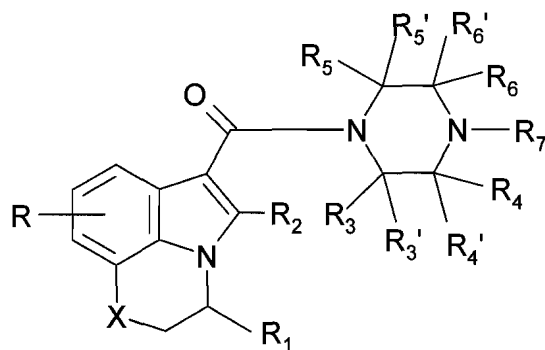


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative having the general Formula I



Formula I

wherein

X is CH₂, O or S;

R represents 1-3 substituents independently selected from H, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy and halogen;

R₁ is (C₅₋₈)cycloalkyl;

R₂ is H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl;

R₃, R_{3'}, R₄, R_{4'}, R₅, R_{5'} and R_{6'} are independently hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl, optionally substituted with (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy, OH or halogen;

R₆ is hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl, optionally substituted with (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy, OH or halogen; or

R₆ forms together with R₇ a 4-7 membered saturated heterocyclic ring, ~~optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and S;~~

or

R₇ is H, (C₁₋₄)alkyl or (C₃₋₅)cycloalkyl, the alkyl groups being optionally substituted with OH, halogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyloxy; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (original) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 1, wherein R is H and R₁ is cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl.

3. (Previously Presented) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 1, wherein X is CH₂ or O.

4. (Previously Presented) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 1, wherein R, R₂, R₃, R₃', R₄', R₅, R₅' and R₆' are H; R₄, R₆ and R₇ are independently H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl; or R₆ forms together with R₇ a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring and R₄ is H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)-carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 2, wherein X is CH₂ or O.
9. (Previously Presented) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 2, wherein R, R₂, R₃, R₃', R₄', R₅, R₅' and R₆' are H; R₄, R₆ and R₇ are independently H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl; or R₆ forms together with R₇ a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring and R₄ is H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl.
10. (Previously Presented) The tricyclic 1-[(indol-3-yl)carbonyl]piperazine derivative of claim 3, wherein R, R₂, R₃, R₃', R₄', R₅, R₅' and R₆' are H; R₄, R₆ and R₇ are independently H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl; or R₆ forms together with R₇ a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring and R₄ is H or (C₁₋₄)alkyl.
11. (Currently Amended) A method of treating pain in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising:
administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
12. (Cancelled)